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Most Mortgage Rate Headlines Are Wrong Today

There are quite a few more new stories than normal about **mortgage rates** today. Most of them are wrong. This one is not, and it's pretty easy to see why.

Freddie Mac releases its weekly mortgage rate survey every Thursday morning. The survey accepts responses from Monday through Wednesday, but based on a comparison of day-to-day rates versus the survey numbers, it would appear **Monday's** rates get most of the weight, Tuesday's slightly less, and Wednesday's almost none. In other words, the survey has historically compared Mon/Tue rates to Mon/Tue rates.

That's **not a problem** if that was made more clear by the throng of journalists that cite the survey as the definitive word in week-over-week rate movement. As it stands, however, we have headlines unequivocally proclaiming mortgage rates are at all-time lows "right now."

They're not... They're close in the bigger picture, but most assuredly **no longer at all-time lows.** Go back to Tuesday morning, however, and sure! The average lender was indeed at all-time lows. Things deteriorated a bit since then and the average lender has nudged up just a bit in terms of rate.

Many borrowers **wouldn't** see any different in the interest rate side of the mortgage rate equation, but there's another side: upfront costs. The upfront costs associated with any given rate allow for finer tuning of mortgage interest. In other words, sure, you may still be at Tuesday's rates, but if you're paying **$1000 more in closing costs**, are you really? Spoiler alert: no, you're actual APR (annual percentage rate) is now **higher** than it was before, despite the "note rate" on your loan being the same.

For the average reader, this point of order is relatively insignificant. But for those with loans in process or considering applying, it's **very important**. Simply put, if you explored rate options earlier in the week, and then you saw today's articles proclaiming "new all-time low rates," just know that those headlines would need a time machine to be relevant. Rates certainly aren't "high," but they are higher than they were on Tuesday.

National Average Mortgage Rates



Mortgage News Daily	Rate	Change	Points
30YR Fixed	7.48%	-0.03	0.00
15YR Fixed	7.02%	-0.02	0.00
30YR FHA	7.05%	-0.03	0.00
30YR Jumbo	7.52%	0.00	0.00
7/6 SOFR	7.10%	-0.02	0.00
30YR VA	7.07%	-0.03	0.00

Rates as of: 11/17

MBS and Treasury

	Price / Yield	Change
MBS UMBS 6.0	98.89	+0.00
10 YR Treasury	5.1022	-0.0142
30 YR Treasury	5.4515	-0.0076

Pricing as of: 11/17 8:40PM EST

Recent Housing Data

		Value	Change
Mortgage Apps	Nov 4	204.6	+6.23%
Building Permits	Sep	1.4M	+0.43%
Housing Starts	Sep	1.22M	-4.24%
New Home Sales	Sep	676K	-1.17%
Pending Home Sales	Aug	71.2	0%
Existing Home Sales	Oct	3.99M	+0.25%
Builder Confidence	Oct	29	-9.38%

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Responsive service, experienced expertise

I've dedicated my 26 year mortgage career to client education, superior service, and honest answers. The lending landscape has changed dramatically the past few years, and continues to do so. My job is to ensure client partners' loans close quickly, without surprises, and I take that responsibility very seriously. Referrals are a responsibility I appreciate; they're a measure of trust, and that trust must be earned every day, on every referral.

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